

# District Newsletter

September  
2024

DG Raleigh Peck  
1<sup>st</sup> VDG Corinna Christensen  
2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Jon Kimble  
[montanalions.org](http://montanalions.org)

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## **“Where there is a need, there is a Lion”** District Governor Message - Raleigh Peck

Hello Lions,

I do hope everyone had a wonderful summer and are ready to get back to our fall service projects and fund raising.

August started out with a bang for your Governor. On the first I was on a plane to Chicago for the Mission 1.5 Summit. What an intense day and a half. It was an invite only for all Governors, GET and GMT Chairs. The speakers were entirely lions and what an inspiration they all were. Did you know that CA1, USA and Canada, has not had a positive growth since 1981? We are down approximately 400,000 members which is nearly half of what we were in 1980. We had 17 International Directors and at the next convention in Mexico City July 4-8, 2025 we will be down to 8. SD 37 Montana has lost 28 clubs since we have added a new one.

Melvin Jones started Lions Clubs in Chicago USA in 1917 and we were currently outranked by several other Constitutional Areas. Primarily Asia and the Middle East. We NEED to get back to building clubs and membership, and it all must start NOW. We are embarking on an aggressive Facebook ad campaign targeting over 30 underserved communities in Montana, nearly all of them have had Lions Clubs in the past. We need you and your club to help foster Lionism in these communities. My District goals include starting at least 4 Club Branches in year 24/25. This should be easy. A club branch only needs 5 like-minded individuals and a host club.

Look around for specialty groups that can't afford to do projects they want to do because it cost too much for the insurance. Did you know being a Lion and paying our dues we all have over 1 million dollars in liability insurance to cover us in our projects and fundraising for only about 7 dollars a month in dues per member. That's cheap.

So be ready to step up when someone from the district calls and asks for your help in making Lions International the largest and greatest service organization in the world.

Yours in service  
Raleigh G Peck  
SD 37 Governor



## President's Message Make Your Mark with International President Fabrício Oliveira

Dear Lion,

Making your mark is easier when you invite others to help you meet the growing needs of your community and our world. That's why we launched *MISSION 1.5* and set a goal of reaching 1.5 million members by 2027.

Everyone has a role to play in growing our service, so be sure growing your club is central to your plans for the year.

It's important to keep in mind *why* growing is so important. When our clubs and districts grow, our service grows. Our visibility grows. Our influence grows. And we grow as Lions. So lead the way by inviting friends and family to join you in making your mark!

At your service,

**Fabrício Oliviera**  
**International President**

# GET Report – IPDG Brian Gertiser

## Global Extension Team

As we continue our mission to serve our communities, expanding our reach through new branches is crucial. If you know of an area that could benefit from the presence of Lions Club service, but might not be ready for a fully-chartered 20-member club, consider initiating the process to start a new branch. With just five passionate applicants and five straightforward steps, we can grow our service and our impact.

Here's a refresher on how you can lead the charge:

1. **Gather Your Team:** Identify five other dedicated individuals who share our commitment to community service. This could be enthusiastic new members eager to join our ranks or a current Lion looking for a change of pace.
2. **Contact District 37:** Reach out to IPDG Brian Gertiser and the Global Extension Team for the support and resources you'll need. Our district leadership is ready to provide guidance at every stage of the process.
3. **Organize Your Club:** Establish a regular meeting place, set clear goals, and plan your inaugural service project. These foundational steps are crucial in building a strong, cohesive club.
4. **Official Registration:** District 37 can assist you with the necessary paperwork to formally register your new branch with Lions Clubs International. This ensures your club is recognized and can operate effectively within the global Lions network.
5. **Celebrate and Serve:** Once your club is officially chartered, celebrate this milestone and begin your service activities. Your efforts will immediately contribute to the betterment of your community.

By fostering the creation of new Lions Club branches, we continue to uphold our legacy of service. If you're ready to take this step or know applicants who are, reach out today. Let's work together to bring the Lions' spirit of service to even more communities across Montana. Get more information about starting a club branch at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/club-branch>

For more information contact IPDG Brian Gertiser, GET leader; 10680 Bridger Canyon Rd, Bozeman MT 59715; 406-539-0992; 2bjgert@gmail.com

## **GMT Report - PDG Richard Gessling**

Global Membership Team, September 2024

As I talk to clubs that are struggling to survive because of a variety of reasons, one stands out above the rest. Many clubs have fewer and fewer hands-on service projects for a variety of reasons. One reason is lost membership. This causes a cycle of fewer projects and then more lost members.

The best way to recruit new members and retain members is to have many and necessary service projects. Clubs should be replacing no longer needed projects with new ideas for serving their communities. A review of existing projects and ideas for new projects should be occurring if not on a yearly basis at least every few years. Clubs need projects that attract people not only from the club, but from the communities they serve.

Members are lost when they are no longer needed for a project or the same members take the same roles year after year. Most new members join because they want to serve in a hands-on way. When the new member realizes they are not needed they will silently leave. The club then has fewer members and the cycle repeats. Clubs should be planning ahead to leave old service projects that are not needed and discover new service projects that utilize the most members of their club.

Act now, don't delay!  
Richard Gessling

## **GST Report - PDG Dennis Kopitzke**

Global Service Team

Global and Montana Service - September, 2024

The work of our Montana Lions clubs to provide a wide variety of service activities to communities is appreciated by your community members. Keep up the great work.

During the next few months service projects involving our Montana Lions clubs will be highlighted. Examples from every club in the state will be provided. Information was posted on the LCI website starting in July 2020. For more information on each club contact club leaders. Contact information can be found on the district website:

[www.montanalions.org](http://www.montanalions.org)

**Baker** (1): care of Centennial Park; **Big Timber** (4): vision screening, Christmas baskets, Easter egg hunt; **Billings** (4): Plusoptix screening, Beartooth Mountain Youth Camp, Charles Campbell Children's Camp; **Billings Heights** (144): health and wellness programs, vision screening, eye glass collection, lawn care service, pull tab program; **Bozeman** (35): food baskets, 12 days of Christmas raffle, eye glass collection; **Bozeman Gallatin Empire** (106): Hyaline Youth Camp, junior high track meet, 1<sup>st</sup> grade flag program, Red Cross blood drive, can recycling, support for Leader Dog, Plusoptix, hunger project; **Bozeman Sweet Pea** (60): 1<sup>st</sup> grade flag program, Camp Braveheart breakfast, senior food pantry, May Day baskets, Thanksgiving meal bags, Eagle Mount breakfast, senior grocery program; **Bozeman Sourdough** (1): downtown flower planter maintenance; **Butte Mile-Hi** (28): Support for Opportunity rest stop, Journey of Hope program, support for food bank, Toys for Tots, individual health care assistance; **Cascade** (3): fireworks fund raiser, cornhole tournament, Trex bench (plastic collection)

Once clubs have chosen a service project and work has been done then the results of the club's efforts should be reported to LCI. Reporting is easily done via MyLCI. The club president, secretary, club service chair or club administrator can establish an account with LCI and report club service activities. Go to the [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org); MyLCI link; create a user name and password. The same log in information can also be used for access to MyLion.

To report the service activity select the "MyLion icon"; select "Report Past Activity: click on "Report"; complete the reporting form; hit OK and the reporting is complete

Send information associated with your major service projects to Lion Peggy Tobin, [peggyt@northerntel.com](mailto:peggyt@northerntel.com) Lion Peggy can post information to the district website and it can be included in the district newsletter.

Additional service information will be distributed to clubs via email to club presidents and secretaries throughout the Lions 2024-2025 Lions year.

For more information on Montana and Global service contact: PDG Dennis Kopitzke, GST Leader; [djk\\_7491@rangeweb.net](mailto:djk_7491@rangeweb.net); Box 1266, Forsyth 59327; 406-853-8695.



**SEPTEMBER IS CHILDHOOD CANCER MONTH!**

On August 16th & 17th, PDG Mike Tobin and I attended a conference in San Antonio, Texas with about 240 other District Coordinators and Foundation Staff from across the United States. We learned of some changes in grants as well as a new one coming soon.

- \* DISASTER RELIEF GRANTS: Increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per Incident.
- \* DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GRANTS: Increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000.
- \* NOW AVAILABLE 2 YEARS AFTER THE PREVIOUS GRANT. (previously 3 years)
- \*DISASTER RECOVERY GRANTS: DISCONTINUED (Some benefits will be incorporated into Disaster Relief Grants)
- \* HUNGER GRANTS: Increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000.
- \* MATCHING GRANTS: Increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000.
- \* SIGHT FIRST 2 GRANTS: DISCONTINUED, (Funds for this program have been depleted)
- \*\* NEW\*\* Coming Soon: VISION EQUIPMENT GRANTS: (Up to \$300,000)

EVERY DAY our Lions Clubs International Foundation responds to grant requests from all around the world. To meet the increased number of, and increased costs of, these requests for grants, requires a constant replenishment of reserve funds.

Please consider a monthly donation of what you can afford, or give a one-time gift toward Childhood Cancer this month. Contact: donorassistance@lionsclubs.org, mail a check to LCIF, 300 W 22nd St., Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-8842, or contact PDG Mike Tobin or myself.

Yours in Lionism,  
PDG Lary Garrison  
703 Conway St.  
Billings, Mt. 59105  
406-855-6997  
lionlarygarrison@gmail.com

PDG Mike Tobin  
P.O. Box 408  
Sunburst, Mt. 59482  
406-450-2780  
miktob1951@gmail.com

**PLUSOPTIX**

**PlusOptix Update** – PlusOptix screening totals for school year Aug 2023 to May 2024: 37,132 screened with 4,546 refers.

Thank you for a great school year.

Lion David Falcon, District 37 PlusOptix Chair  
314 9<sup>th</sup> St. W., Kalispell, MT 59901; H. 406-253-1726: lion.dfalcon@gmail.com

# MT Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

## September 2024

### Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation Statistics

Please find below the statistics from January 1, 2024 to August 27, 2024.

Applications Received: 34

Assistance Provided: 12

Total Cost of Assistance Provided: \$20,544.00

Applications Received From: Augusta, Bozeman, Belgrade, Bridger, Choteau, Clancy, Clinton, Corvallis, Darby, Dillon, East Helena, Fortine, Great Falls, Hamilton, Helena, Libby, Livingston, Missoula and Stevensville.

### Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation Fellowships

**Foundation Fellowship:** Foundation Fellowships can now be purchased by individuals. Foundation Fellowships are used to recognize outstanding Lions and other deserving individuals. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation endorses this Fellowship. The Fellowship award includes a lapel pin and a mounted certificate and may only be bestowed by a Lions Club on an individual or group of individuals with a donation of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) to the Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

**PID Fellowship:** The PID Dave Hajny, PID Tom Lehman and PID Gary Tschache Fellowships are now available. The fellowships recognize the contributions to Lionism made by PID's Dave, Tom and Gary. The new fellowships are a great way to provide recognition for a deserving Lion. Fellowships can be purchased for five hundred dollars (\$500) to the Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

**Life Membership:** A Life Membership to the Foundation, which includes a lapel pin and pocket card can be bestowed by an individual, group of individuals, Lions Club or can be purchased by an individual with a donation of one hundred dollars (\$100) to the Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation.

**Memorial or Honorarium:** Remember a loved one or honor that special person by donating to the Foundation. What better way to remember or honor someone than having your donation live in perpetuity? Your Memorial or Honorarium donation is never spent; only the interest earned on these assets will be used to further the purpose of the Foundation.

# CLUB SPOTLIGHTS

## JOLIET INDUCTS THREE NEW MEMBERS

The Joliet Lions Club inducted three new members at their August 16 meeting.



From left to right: Sponsor Patty Janz with new member Mary Hyvonen  
Sponsor Christine Gardiner with new member Arlis Kaiser  
Sponsor Janice Ward with new member Hal Ward

## DISTRICT 37 FACEBOOK PAGE

We all know that Lions serve from the heart, and now we want to see YOU in action! Whether you're planting trees, organizing a food drive, helping out at a community event, or any other service activity, we want to showcase the amazing work our Lions are doing. We're looking for candid shots of Montana Lions actively engaging in service. We appreciate the posed group photos that commemorate events but we want to see how you have captured the real moments that show the spirit of Lionism in action!

How to Participate:

1. Snap candid photos of Lions in action during service activities.
2. Share your photos via message to the District Facebook Page (<https://m.me/MontanaLions>).
3. Include a brief description of the activity and the names of the Lions involved.
4. Bonus points for Lions wearing Lions Club logos on hats, vests, shirts, etc.!

Let's fill our media with the heart and soul of our District's service efforts. Remember, a picture is worth a thousand words—let's show the world the impact of the Montana Lions Clubs of District 37!



## DISTRICT 37 ENDORSED PROJECTS

**Diabetes- Now What?** – PDG Dennis Kopitzke, [djk\\_7491@rangeweb.net](mailto:djk_7491@rangeweb.net);  
PO Box 1266, Forsyth 59327; 406-346-1488.

**Florence Crittenton Home** (Helena) - Lion Danielle Vincent; 4410 Crimson Ct, Helena, MT 59602; 406-202-1348; [craftycpa@gmail.com](mailto:craftycpa@gmail.com);  
[www.florencecrittenton.org](http://www.florencecrittenton.org)

**Leader Dogs for the Blind** - PDG Jim Johnke, PO Box 206, Winnett, 59087; 406- 928-3311; [jrjohnke@gmail.com](mailto:jrjohnke@gmail.com); [www.lionsclubs.org/leaderdog](http://www.lionsclubs.org/leaderdog)  
and DG Michael Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; 406-937-1215; [miktob1951@gmail.com](mailto:miktob1951@gmail.com)

**Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)** – Co-Chairs  
PDG Lary Garrison, 703 Conway Street, Billings, 59105; 406-855-6997; [lionlarygarrison@gmail.com](mailto:lionlarygarrison@gmail.com); [www.lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org)  
PDG Mike Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst MT 59482; 406-450-2780; [miktob1951@gmail.com](mailto:miktob1951@gmail.com)

**Lions Gift of Sight**, (Actively Endorsed) - PDG Dan Sturdevant, PO Box 275, Clancy, MT 59634; 406-439-9297; [sturdydan@gmail.com](mailto:sturdydan@gmail.com);  
[www.opthalmology.umn.edu](http://www.opthalmology.umn.edu)

**Montana Association for the Blind** – Lion Rhonda Cochrane, 1802 West Park, Anaconda, 59711; 406-490-2669; [rhondacochrane67@gmail.com](mailto:rhondacochrane67@gmail.com);  
[www.mabop.org](http://www.mabop.org)

**Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation** – Lion Jessica Fausey, PO Box 1925; Columbia Falls, MT 59912; 406-253-1737; [lionjessicafausey@gmail.com](mailto:lionjessicafausey@gmail.com); [www.mtlionsshfnd.org](http://www.mtlionsshfnd.org)

### **NEWEST ENDORSED PROJECT:**

**Montana School for the Deaf & Blind Foundation** – Lion Mark Willmarth, 220 38<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Great Falls MT 59404; 406-899-6110; [mark@visionwestmt.com](mailto:mark@visionwestmt.com);  
<https://www.msdbmustangs.org/about-us/foundation/>

**Montana Youth Diabetes Alliance** – PDG Mike Collins; 40 Meadowlark Drive, Kalispell, 59901; 406-871-4176; [mikeacollins@bresnan.net](mailto:mikeacollins@bresnan.net)

# MEMORIAL FORM

**Also available on the district website at <https://www.montanalions.org/events/> and can be submitted directly from the website**

The chairs for the Memorial/Necrology Service at the District's annual convention are the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governors. During the service they will be recognizing deceased Lions' service and years as a Lion, where we will be asking a club or family member to assist by receiving a memorial rose.

We are asking each club's help in securing information about the deceased Lion. We would like to have members of the club or family members in attendance for the service, as well.

Please take a few minutes to complete the following:

Deceased Lion's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club's name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years as a Lion: \_\_\_\_\_

Service projects involved in: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Offices held: \_\_\_\_\_

District Offices held: \_\_\_\_\_

Awards: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the Lion's photo. Return no later than March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!

## SPECIAL NOTICES

### 2024-2025 CLUB OFFICERS

As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, if your club officers for this new Lion year have not been entered into the Lion Portal, you will need to contact Lion Peggy Tobin at [pegtobin54@gmail.com](mailto:pegtobin54@gmail.com) or call 406-461-4206.

### DISTRICT 37 CLUB OFFICER TRAINING VIDEOS

These videos are all accessible via the district website, [www.montanalions.org](http://www.montanalions.org) under "Training/Resources".

All Club officers: Trainer PDG Mike Collins

Club President: Trainer PDG Mike Tobin

**Club Secretary: Trainer Lion Peggy Tobin-Two Videos: The Secretary Position and Training on the New Lion Portal**

Club Treasurer: Trainer PDG Mike Collins

Short videos about how to do specific secretary or treasurer tasks:

With the release of the new LionPortal, we have added links to some of the short videos provided by LCI – specifically Service Activities, How to Edit Members and How to Assign an Officer to replace the videos below which are outdated.

Filing your 990-N (e-Postcard) (9 minutes)

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Any Lions club member can submit information associated with any type of Lions project or general club information. **You can submit Club News ANYTIME via the website under News/Submit Club News.** Here's the link <https://www.montanalions.org/submit-club-news/> You are also welcome to email your news (hopefully with photo) to: Lion Peggy Tobin at [pegtobin54@gmail.com](mailto:pegtobin54@gmail.com).

### WEBSITE UPDATES

**The new "Tri-Fold Generator" is now available** for clubs to create their own club brochures using a tri-fold format that your club can use to share your information to prospective new members. You will find it under Training/Resources on the website.

The club-level website is still being offered by Montana District 37 at NO COST! If you don't already have a domain name, Deanna can provide one for a cost of \$20/year after the first year. If you are interested in getting a website for your club, please contact Peggy Tobin at [pegtobin54@gmail.com](mailto:pegtobin54@gmail.com) or call 406-461-4206.

## **DISTRICT WEBSITE & AVAILABLE LINKS:**

Visit the district website at [www.montanalions.org](http://www.montanalions.org) to find a wealth of valuable information regarding almost every aspect associated with the operation of the district. In addition, the “Links To” on the district website will take you to the websites below:

**LCI website** - Look for: general information, service projects, membership, club improvement, online training, media and news releases, and LCIF.

**LionPortal –NEW** The newly released access point to your Lion Account (for Members, Club Officers, District Officers, Activity Reporting and all things Lion).

**Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation\***: Information regarding programs and sight, hearing and/or speech impairments.

**LCIF\* (Lions Clubs International Foundation)** – Information regarding the Lions Clubs International Foundation and all of the focus areas – Vision, Youth, Disaster Relief, Humanitarian, Diabetes, Childhood Cancer, Environment and Hunger.

**Lions University** – Find out about year/round training provided by the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.

**\*Please note that the district website also provides a “Donate” button to donate to MT Sight & Hearing Foundation AND the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).**

## **DISTRICT OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION**

DG Raleigh Peck; 1575 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Sidney, MT 59270; H: 406-488-7447;  
C: 406-480-5000; [raleighgpeck@gmail.com](mailto:raleighgpeck@gmail.com)

1<sup>st</sup> VDG Corinna Christensen; PO Box 295, Ennis MT 59729;  
C: 406-570-6742; [406corinna@gmail.com](mailto:406corinna@gmail.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Jon Kimble; PO Box 1583, Seeley Lake MT 59868;  
C: 559-352-1455; [jkimble@wellhead.com](mailto:jkimble@wellhead.com)

District Secretary/Administrator; Lion Peggy Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst MT, 59482;  
C: 406-461-4206; H: 406-937-1215; [pegtobin54@gmail.com](mailto:pegtobin54@gmail.com)

District Treasurer: Lion Steve Dogiakos, PO Box 631, Choteau, MT 59422;  
406-203-4679

## **AUGUST CLUB ANNIVERSARIES**

**Culbertson**                      **9/13/1946**  
**Sunburst**                         **9/13/1934**

## **UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETING DATES**

District Cabinet Meeting	October 5, 2024 @ 10:30am- Great Falls, MT School for the Deaf and the Blind
MLS&HF Board Meeting	October 12, 2024 @ 9am - Great Falls, MT School for the Deaf and the Blind

## **DISTRICT 37 ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**2025 District Convention will be held in Helena at the Delta  
(Colonial Inn) Hotel May 2-3, 2025**

## **UPCOMING USA/CANADA FORUMS**

**USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUMS CAN BE RELATED TO ALL AREAS OF  
YOUR LIFE – NOT JUST LIONS**

2024 – Louisville, KY  
2025 – Atlantic City, NJ  
2026 - Memphis TN  
2027 – Huntsville, AB

## **LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE**

2025-Mexico City – July 4-8;  
2026 Hong Kong – Jul 3-7  
2027 Washington DC – July 2-6  
2028 Singapore -June 23-27  
2029 Minneapolis, MN  
2030 San Antonio TX  
2031 – Helsinki Finland

## MINUTES – July 13, 2024 – CABINET MEETING

Peggy Tobin – District Administrator/Secretary

Montana District 37 Cabinet Meeting, July 13, 2024; 10:30 AM; Great Falls, MT School for the Deaf and the Blind

### Attendees:

**In Person:** DG Raleigh Peck, Lion Steve Dogiakos, IPDG Brian Gertizer, PDG Mike Collins, Lion Dave Falcon, PDG Dan Studevart, Lion Jessica Fausey, IPD Dave Hajny, Lion Peggy Tobin, IPID Ben Apeland, PDG Mike Tobin; Lion Marie Hajny; Lion Monte Weisner-Kalispell Sunrisers; Lion Bob Graves, Zone 8 Chair, Choteau, Lion Carl Vender- Shephard

**Via Zoom:** 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Corrinna Christensen, 2<sup>nd</sup>VDG Jon Kimble, PDG Dennis Kopitzke - GST, PDG Richard Gessling (until 11:30) - GMT, Hondo Barr, Zone 13 Chair; Margaret Baylinson, Zone 3 Chair

1. Call to Order by DG Raleigh Peck at 10:45 AM
  - a) Pledge of Allegiance
  - b) Invocation: Dan
  - c) Introductions – all attendees introduced themselves noting their club and position
  - d) District Governor - Opening Remarks –DG Raleigh discussed Mission 1.5. His big push this year will be Club Branches where only 5 members are required.
2. Minutes: Motion by Steve D, second by Mike T to approve the April 21, 2024 minutes as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Financial Report: Steve reviewed the financial reports ending June 30, 2024, noting that the District is in a decent financial position with over \$200,000. He noted that we were about \$2,000 over in the budget for 2023-24 (website was also over by that amount). He recommended that we review the current year budget to ensure that we have a balanced budget as currently the bottom line is a \$-24,000. Mike T. recommended that the governor's team review the budget. Richard noted that we need a GAT (action team) line item in the budget.  
Steve moved to adopt the resolution 2024-01 for banking. Ben asked if the funds are staying in Stockman or moving. Steve will be moving the funds in Stockman to 1<sup>st</sup> Bank of Montana which has a local branch in Choteau. Mike C seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Dave H recommended that since we have a new treasurer, that Raleigh and Peggy work with Steve to develop good processes to ensure that payments are all valid and correctly paid. Motion by Mike C, second by Dave F to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Additions to the agenda are noted in Item 8 below. Raleigh commented that he hasn't completed the district committees.
5. Old Business
  - a. LCIF – outstanding grants – Mike T. requested the cabinet's approval to close out the Plus Optix Grant. Steve moved to approve the closing of the Plus Optix grant. Mike C. seconded the motion noting that he would like to see a summary when we are voting on grants. Motion passed unanimously. Mike T also reported that Glendive is submitting two grants - a matching grant to upgrade the Pool's bathrooms to be ADA compliant and one for hunger (not matching) for new appliances for the food bank. Mike T reported that the LCIF district giving is 25% higher than the prior year.
  - b. Club Health Assessment – May Report –Brian noted that to date we are positive.

- c. Club Officer Training – Mike C. reported that we have not yet redone the videos but Peggy had Edge provide links to three of the Lion Portal “how to” videos under the Training tab for club secretaries. We will have training at the Convention in Helena. Mike C. has applied for attending the Faculty Development Institute (FDI) in Chicago. He hasn’t been accepted as yet, but if he is invited to go, he’d ask for reimbursement for the registration and travel. Peggy was asked about the secretaries who have not updated the officers for the current year. She reported that she emailed approximately half the clubs who hadn’t reported in the system as of June and we are now down to eight clubs that have not started the process. Mike C. also reported on the Leadership Retreat to be held in September in Choteau.
  - d. Addition to the Policies - 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice District Governor – Raleigh reviewed the proposed Article 2 Section A1 to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> VDG to the District (see attached). Discussion followed regarding budgets. Richard moved to approve bringing on a 3<sup>rd</sup> VDG program as a pilot program adding \$1500 from reserves to fund the position. Motion was seconded by Mike T. Motion passed unanimously. Steve moved to add Article 2, Section A1 to the policy manual. Seconded by Dave F and motion passed unanimously.
  - e. Review/Update to Policy Article 7 - Endorsed Projects – Proposed changes were reviewed (see attached). Richard moved to accept the amendments to the endorsed projects and was seconded by Steve. Motion passed unanimously.
  - f. Updates to District 37 Facebook Page – Jessica sent out a request and Steve was the only one that responded. Brian recommended that a “help wanted” for assistance be in the August Newsletter. Steve also has some ideas for how to find others to assist Jessica.
6. New Business
- a. 2024 Convention Report – Brian reported that we haven’t received a final report from Havre.
  - b. 2025 District Convention – Dan reported that the 2025 Convention will be May 2-3, 2025 at the Delta (Colonial Inn) in Helena. Dan confirmed that there is \$3,000 of seed money available from the District. Ben agreed to assist and reported that ID Anthony Paradiso from New York (a sitting judge) has been selected and notified. Dan has both Helena clubs and Townsend club onboard to assist with the convention.
  - c. Montana Glasses – Raleigh noted that there’s a question of whether this is a district project or not. It was confirmed that several Walmarts have quit taking the glasses and John is no longer going to be a collection point. Ben noted that when you collect 300 pairs of glasses, the club should put that on their club service report. Peggy will link the post that tells how the clubs can forward the glasses directly to Seattle to the Donate Page. Corrina offered that if any clubs aren’t willing to forward the glasses to Seattle, Ennis will offer to collect the glasses. Peggy moved to make Collecting Glasses as a District Project. Steve seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
  - d. Website security – proposed changes to directory – Peggy reviewed the options that Edge has provided in providing more security for the Directory page – the first option was discussed over a year ago – have a login/password that would be provided to current members but that option didn’t seem to provide much security band because it would be difficult to disseminate the login information to the appropriate folks. The other option is to have a “registration process for anyone who wants access to that information. The registration would go into a “que” and be reviewed and either approved or rejected. Once registration is approved, that member would be able to access the directory. This upgrade would cost \$500 as Edge would have to set up additional parameters to make it work. A third option is for everyone to use the Lion Portal and just have a listing of our current officers with no contact info. Richard moved to approve the \$500 to Edge to create a registration for members. Steve recommended a fourth option that we could just remove the email information off of our website as they can be accessed through the Lion Portal by every member. Peggy noted that Deanna said that could be done without

taking the emails out of the database. Richard retracted his motion. Steve moved to remove all emails from the website and have “contact forms” for all of the district team members as needed and Mike C seconded the motion. Motion carried with Dave H abstaining.

## 7. Officer Reports

- a. DG/VDGs Club Visitations – Raleigh reported that they have not started visitations as 3<sup>rd</sup> VDG had not been finalized. He noted that Gary Bissell will be put into the 3<sup>rd</sup> VDG position.
- b. Administrator’s Report – Peggy reported that since the convention, she has been working with several secretaries on the new Lion Portal. Five of the clubs on her initial list had in fact entered their officers, but the portal report did not include them (even though 23-24 had all 59 clubs). She has emailed technical support but hasn’t received a response. The website directory has been updated with 2024-2025 officers for all clubs that updated their officers in the new Lion Portal. The website directory has also been updated to reflect all current district officers. She will be providing Edge with the new lists for International officers and directors along with updating the “our organization” section as soon as she has Jon’s bio and photo and LCI has updated the 1<sup>st</sup> year International Directors. Peggy updated her contract to reflect the duties that have evolved with the development of the website. Mike T added that if the governor’s team will request that the club secretaries that update any information LCI also pass that information on to the district secretary.

### c. Zone/Region Reports

Margaret – Zone 3 – Reported that most of the clubs are on vacation. Columbia Falls just completed a celebration for Don Lawrence. They also do summer concerts in the park and are getting ready for Heritage Days where they will have a float in the parade. Sunrisers sponsor “Firecracker Baseball” where they make \$2-3,000. Adrian in Eureka is still working on a playground that they’ve been installing and she has encouraged him to officially complete the paperwork for a Leo’s club. Working on details for all of the zone clubs to have a booth at the fair.

Raleigh introduced Zone 13 Chair, Hondo from Ennis and Zone 8 Chair, Bob from Choteau. Bob reported that Choteau completed their parade and they sponsored a concert at the new band shell. Their trip of the month will kick off in August. Sunburst is setting up a 501C3 utilizing the EZForm.

## 8. Committee Reports

- a. GMT – Richard reported that he has done Bozeman Gallatin Empire, set a date for Missoula Southside and is setting a date for Butte Mile-Hi. July 17<sup>th</sup> he will be at the new club members induction for Joliet. He has also been working with George Chenowith in Livingston.
- b. GET – Brian is working with George Chenowith in Livingston to get a club branch going there and Brian is working on their Tri-Fold. Havre is working on Chester and Raleigh asked Brian to work with Zone 8 Chair, Scott. Brian is also hoping to work with White Sulphur Springs in the Shields Valley area. Bozeman Heritage Christian School is interested in a Leo Club. Adrian has agreed to be the Leo Chair.
- c. GLT – See above – Leadership Retreat is in Choteau September 20-21. Will hopefully do zoom training for the portal and will do training at the convention.
- d. GST – Dennis reviewed his report (see attached). Dave H. requested that Dennis provide his reports so he can submit them to the Global Service Team officers.
- e. LCIF – Mike T reported that this is his and Lary’s last year but he told Corinna that he would be willing to do another tour. Corinna asked if they coordinate visits with governor’s visits. Mike said it’s good to do just an LCIF visit and not interfere with the governor’s visit.
- f. Plus-Optix – no report for the summer.



- g. IPID Ben reported that the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums can be related to all areas of your life – not just Lions. Ben asked for the following schedule be put on the website:

2024 – Louisville, KY

2025 – Atlantic City, NJ

2026 - Memphis TN

2027 – Huntsville, AB

He also provided the LCI Convention schedule:

2025-Mexico City – July 4-8;

2026 Hong Kong – Jul 3-7

2027 Washington DC – July 2-6

2028 Singapore -June 23-27

2029 Minneapolis, MN

2030 San Antonio TX

2031 – Helsinki Finland

9. Next meeting: Oct 12, 2024 at 10:30am – Great Falls, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind

10. Adjournment – Dave H moved and Ben seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:00pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Tobin  
District 37 Administrator/Secretary 7/13/24